

Juduser

From: Luigi Ceci <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2022 2:26 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Opposing S.B. 16

- Mr. Co-Chairman, Mr. Co-Chairman, and members of the committee,

My name is Luigi Ceci from Stamford, CT.

I OPPOSE, bill S.B. 16.

My reasoning is as follow.

- **Connecticut is one of the most restrictive and regulated states for gun ownership.**

- Additional restrictions and burdens on law abiding citizens is not rational.

- **Creation of “gun-free” zones on buses, trains, and ferries**

- This discriminates against and disproportionately impacts lower-income citizens and

minorities, who are more likely to use public transportation.

- Has there been a history of gun violence on buses, trains and ferries in Connecticut?

- **Allows police to demand to see your license if they observe that you are carrying a pistol or revolver**

- Creates Fourth Amendment concerns as it does not require reasonable suspicion of a crime, as well as concerns that it may lead to discrimination and profiling.

- **Restricts the carrying of a firearm if it is shown or visible knowingly within 250 feet of a demonstration**

- Presents First Amendment concerns also relating to free speech, association.
- A demonstration is loosely defined to mean fifteen or more people in attendance,

including at a sidewalk, park, or restaurant.

- Open carry is legal in CT, but this could make it a crime in nearly any public place.

- **Requires the registration of firearms that do not have serial numbers**

- This is likely unenforceable, and would create additional burdens on law-abiding gun

owners while having no impact on those who do not follow the law. ○ “Ghost guns” is a biased and politically charged term.

- **Revises the “assault weapons” ban to include “others”**

- No evidence linking these firearms to higher rates of crime or common usage in crimes. ○ Restricts law-abiding gun owners based on cosmetic features.
- “Assault weapon” is a biased and ambiguous political term that covers hundreds of types

of firearms.

- “AR” does not mean “assault rifle”. It means “ArmaLite” which is a company that

originally designed their style of rifle in the 1950s

- **Bans “pre-ban” (1994) semi-auto rifles**

- Similar to “others,” imposes unreasonable restrictions on law-abiding gun owners who

have complied with all previous regulations, and without any supporting evidence to do

so.

- **Puts numerous additional restrictions and burdens on law-abiding gun owners, while not enforcing the current laws against criminals**

- According to CCDL, roughly 70% of gun offenses in CT are not prosecuted to the fullest extent with the law, with the “overwhelming majority” committed by prohibited persons who cannot lawfully possess a firearm. The governor has spoken of his abhorrence for *all* firearms in the state, and the bill is unreasonably punitive to law-abiding citizens while creating measures that lead to discrimination and are nearly impossible to enforce on criminals. CT gun sales increased over 33% in 2020 alone, with a 50% increase in the number of new permits issued. The National Shooting Sports Foundation found that in the first quarter of 2020, 40% of gun buyers were first-time buyers, and 40% of new buyers were female. It is evident that this bill is not reflective of the growing positive public sentiment towards firearms in the state.

Thank you for listening and OPPOSING S.B. 16

Luigi Ceci